

## FW: [EXTERNAL] response requested to upcoming Scripps DC story on Kathleen Hartnett White- nominated to chair CEQ

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**From:** Kathleen Hartnett White <khwhite@texaspolicy.com>

**To:** "Loyola, Mario A. EOP/CEQ" (b) (6), Alex Herrgott (b) (6), "Seale, Viktoria Z. EOP/CEQ" (b) (6)

**Date:** Tue, 19 Dec 2017 11:27:40 -0500

Here are some sample responses that I like.  
Kathleen

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**From:** Seal, Derek [mailto:dseal@winstead.com]

**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 4:40 PM

**To:** Kathleen Hartnett White <khwhite@texaspolicy.com>; Nasi Mike <mnasi@jw.com>; Gjgibbs <gjgibbs@aep.com>; Wheatley W M <wademwheatley@gmail.com>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] response requested to upcoming Scripps DC story on Kathleen Hartnett White- nominated to chair CEQ

It appears that the media is asking a question based on their own conclusory statements about what they want the testimony to say, which they quote as:

*"During her nomination hearing November 8, 2017, Ms. White testified: "I would never, ever tell staff to underreport health hazards. That's the only statement I wanted to make. And health hazards like this need to be addressed ASAP."*

I would answer the questions you want to answer, rather than try to answer the loaded questions that have been asked. For example:

"In her testimony, Ms. White said she would have never told agency staff to underreport a health hazard. Her written responses simply states that based on the technical information that Texas' legislative and agency leadership was relying upon, subtracting the rounding error would not have resulted in negative health impacts. Ms. White's testimony was that had she thought radionuclides presented a health hazard, then the issue would have been addressed."

1) At the time of her nomination, was the President aware of Ms. White's role in sanctioning the subtraction of the margin of error, from test results for radionuclides in drinking water? The President is aware that Ms. White made thousands of decisions while she was at TCEQ. Many of those decisions were highly technical and based on her expertise and the expertise of her staff.

2) Does the President believe it is scientifically acceptable to subtract the margin of error away from test results for contaminants in drinking water? Any tests for contaminants in drinking water should be appropriately based on sound, credible science and scientifically appropriate

drinking water standards. Decision makers have to make their decisions based on the credible science.

3) **Would he consider expanding such a practice nationally, if Ms. White was confirmed and advised this practice?** Drinking water should be appropriately tested to ensure that scientifically based drinking water standards are met.

4) **Does the President still support Ms. White as his nominee to chair CEQ?** The Administration has not been provided with any credible reason not to support Ms. White's nomination.

The President

**Derek Seal**

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**From:** Kathleen Hartnett White [<mailto:khwhite@texaspolicy.com>]

**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 3:02 PM

**To:** Seal, Derek; Nasi Mike; Gjibbs; Wheatley W M

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] response requested to upcoming Scripps DC story on Kathleen Hartnett White- nominated to chair CEQ

(b) (5)



Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Loyola, Mario A. EOP/CEQ" (b) (6)

**Date:** December 18, 2017 at 2:33:02 PM CST

**To:** "[khwhite@texaspolicy.com](mailto:khwhite@texaspolicy.com)" <[khwhite@texaspolicy.com](mailto:khwhite@texaspolicy.com)>

**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] response requested to upcoming Scripps DC story on Kathleen Hartnett White- nominated to chair CEQ

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Herrgott, Alex H. EOP/CEQ" (b) (6)

**Date:** December 18, 2017 at 1:37:06 PM CST

**To:** "Loyola, Mario A. EOP/CEQ" (b) (6)